



Rieske Family Portrait 1910: Back: Alvin, Samuel Jr., William, Frieda, Oswald. Front: Babette, Daniel, Samuel, Louise, Arnold.



1st. Alven, Bahette,
Dan, Samuel,
Louise, Arnold

Back - Samuel Jr.
William, Frieda,
Oswald

[NOTE: The younger daughter mentioned in the above letter was Babette's little Katharina.]

Samuel was quite sure of himself, for it sounds like he knew Babette would come. The letter shows of his love for her. It would be nice if we had the letter that Babette's mother sent to Samuel in response, but she must have given her permission. When Samuel died, Babette died and the children divided their belongings, no one was concerned about the letters and papers they had kept, and they were destroyed. We are grateful for the pictures in the red velvet photo album that their son Alvin kept and passed down to his daughter Ellen. Ellen had them copied for us, and they will be included in this history.

Samuel sent the money for her ticket to Utah because Babette's family were poor and could not afford to send her to get married. Her mother was single and supported herself and her children. Samuel probably counted the days until his sweetheart would at last arrive. He must have made arrangements for his future bride, including a home where they could be happy.



Photograph of Babette Schroeder taken in Hof, Germany, about 1890.